

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-44 were pending and rejected. In this response, claims 3, 8, 13-18, 22, 25, 30, and 35-40 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-7, 9, 11, 19, 23-24, 26, 28-29, 31, 33, 41, and 44 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-12, 19-21, 23-24, 26-29, 31-34, and 41-44 remain pending. No new matter has been added.

Specifically, independent claims 1, 23, and 44 have been amended to include substantially all limitations of dependent claims 3, 8, 13-18, and 22. The rest of the amendments are performed for proper dependency purposes. Thus, Applicant does not initiate a new search. In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-12, 19-21, 23-24, 26-29, 31-34, and 41-44 as amended (e.g., currently pending claims as amended) include limitations that are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references, individually or in combination. Therefore, claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-12, 19-21, 23-24, 26-29, 31-34, and 41-44 are not anticipated by and are patentable over the cited references.

A telephone interview has been conducted on May 18, 2005 with Examiners Ciara A. Martin and Saleh Najjar. Claims 1-44 have been discussed with respect to the references cited in the Office Action. The Examiners agreed to reconsider the present application as amended.


In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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